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Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples

Report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples on its work during 2000**

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** The present document contains chapters III-XII of the Special Committee's report to the General Assembly. The general introductory chapter will be issued under the symbol A/55/23 (Part I). The recommendations of the Special Committee to the General Assembly will be issued under the symbol A/55/23 (Part III). The complete report will be issued as *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 23* (A/55/23).

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Chapter III
Dissemination of information on decolonization

1. At its 1st and 3rd meetings, on 18 February and 28 March 2000, by adopting the suggestions relating to the organization of its work put forward by the Chairman (A/AC.109/2000/L.2 and Rev.1) the Special Committee decided, inter alia, to take up the question of the dissemination of information on decolonization as a separate item and to consider it at its plenary meetings.

2. The Special Committee considered the item at its 5th meeting, on 5 July 2000.

3. In its consideration of the item, the Special Committee took into account the provisions of the relevant General Assembly resolutions, including, in particular, resolution 54/92 of 6 December 1999 on the dissemination of information on decolonization, and resolution 54/91 of the same date on the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

4. The Special Committee held consultations with representatives of the Department of Public Information and of the Department of Political Affairs of the Secretariat at its 5th meeting, on 5 July (see A/AC.109/2000/SR.5).

5. At the same meeting, the Chairman of the Special Committee drew attention to the report of the Department of Public Information on the dissemination of information on decolonization (A/AC.109/2000/19) and a draft resolution on the item prepared by the Chairman (A/AC.109/2000/L.4).

6. At the same meeting, the Special Committee adopted draft resolution A/AC.109/2000/L.4 without a vote (A/AC.109/2000/20).

7. The text of resolution A/AC.109/2000/20 appears in the form of a recommendation of the Special Committee to the General Assembly in part III of the present report (see A/55/23 (Part III), chap. XIII, sect. G).

Week of Solidarity with the Peoples of All Colonial Territories Fighting for Freedom, Independence and Human Rights

8. The Special Committee observed the Week of Solidarity with the Peoples of All Colonial Territories Fighting for Freedom, Independence and Human Rights during its Pacific Regional Seminar, held at Majuro, Marshall Islands, from 16 to 18 May 2000 (for details, see A/55/23 (Part I) chap. II, annex, paras. 15-18 and appendices II-IV).

Chapter IV
Question of sending visiting missions to Territories

9. At its 1st and 3rd meetings, on 18 February and 28 March 2000, by adopting the suggestions relating to the organization of its work put forward by the Chairman (A/AC.109/2000/L.2 and Rev.1), the Special Committee decided, inter alia, to take up the question of sending visiting missions to Territories as appropriate. The Special Committee also decided that the item should be considered at its plenary meetings and, as appropriate, in connection with its examination of specific Territories.

10. The Special Committee considered the item at its 5th meeting, on 5 July 2000.

11. In its consideration of the item, the Special Committee took into account the provisions of the relevant General Assembly resolutions, including, in particular, the pertinent provisions of resolution 54/91 on the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and resolutions 54/89 and 54/90 of the same date relating to specific Territories. The Special Committee also considered resolution 45/33 of 20 November 1990 relating to the thirtieth anniversary of the Declaration.

12. In addition to the consideration of the item, the Special Committee considered the specific Territories referred to it, taking into account the relevant provisions of General Assembly resolutions 54/91 and 54/92, as well as previous decisions of the Special Committee relating to the question.

13. At its 5th meeting, on 5 July 2000, the Acting Chairman drew attention to a draft resolution on the item (A/AC.109/2000/L.6).

14. At the same meeting, the Special Committee adopted draft resolution A/AC.109/2000/L.6 without a vote (A/AC.109/2000/22).

15. By adopting at its 11th meeting, on 12 July, a resolution on Tokelau (A/AC.109/2000/26), and at its 13th meeting, on 20 July 2000, a consolidated resolution on 11 small Non-Self-Governing Territories (A/AC.109/2000/30), the Special Committee endorsed a number of conclusions and recommendations concerning the sending of visiting missions to Territories, as reflected in its recommendations to the General Assembly in chapters X and XI (see also A/55/23 (Part III), chap. XIII, sect. E relating to Tokelau and sect. F relating to American Samoa, Anguilla, Bermuda, the British Virgin Islands, the Cayman Islands, Guam, Montserrat, Pitcairn, St. Helena, the Turks and Caicos Islands and the United States Virgin Islands).

16. The text of resolution A/AC.109/2000/22, adopted by the Special Committee at its 5th meeting, on 5 July 2000, is reproduced below:

Question of sending visiting missions to Territories

The Special Committee,

Having considered the question of sending visiting missions to Territories,

Recalling the relevant resolutions and decisions of the General Assembly and the Special Committee requesting the administering Powers to cooperate fully with the United Nations by receiving visiting missions in the Territories under their administration,

Mindful that United Nations visiting missions provide an effective means of assessing the situation in those Territories and of ascertaining the wishes and aspirations of the peoples thereof regarding their future status,

Conscious that United Nations visiting missions enhance the capacity of the United Nations to assist the peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories in attaining the objectives set forth in the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, contained in General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, and in other relevant resolutions of the Assembly,

Noting with appreciation the continuing exemplary cooperation of New Zealand, as an administering Power, in the work of the Special Committee, and that, at the invitation of the Government of New Zealand, a visiting mission was dispatched to Tokelau in July 1994,[1]

Recalling the dispatch in 1979 of a United Nations visiting mission to the Territory of Guam, noting the recommendation of the 1996 Pacific Regional Seminar that a visiting mission be sent to Guam, and taking note of resolution No. 464 (LS), adopted by the twenty-third Guam legislature on 19 July 1996, in which it requested the dispatch of a United Nations visiting mission to that Territory,

Welcoming the commencement of informal dialogue between the Special Committee and some administering Powers,

1. *Stresses* the need to dispatch periodic visiting missions to Non-Self-Governing Territories in order to facilitate the full, speedy and effective implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples with respect to those Territories;

2. *Calls upon* the administering Powers to cooperate or continue to cooperate with the United Nations by receiving United Nations visiting missions in the Territories under their administration;

3. *Requests* the administering Powers to consider new approaches in the work of the Special Committee, and calls upon them to cooperate with the Special Committee in its efforts;

4. *Requests* its Chairman to continue consultations with the administering Powers concerned on the implementation of paragraph 2 of the present resolution and to report thereon to the Special Committee as appropriate;

5. *Also requests* its Chairman to enter into consultations with the administering Power of Guam, with a view to facilitating the dispatch of a United Nations visiting mission to that Territory.

[1] See A/AC.109/2009.

Chapter V
Economic and other activities which affect the interests of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories

17. At its 1st and 3rd meetings, on 18 February and 28 March 2000, by adopting the suggestions relating to the organization of its work put forward by the Chairman (A/AC.109/2000/L.2 and Rev.1), the Special Committee decided, inter alia, to take up as a separate item the question of economic and other activities which affect the interests of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories and to consider it at its plenary meetings.

18. The Special Committee considered the item at its 12th meeting, on 17 July 2000.

19. In its consideration of the item, the Special Committee took into account the provisions of the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, including, in particular, resolution 54/84 of 6 December 1999 on economic and other activities which affect the interests of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories. The Special Committee also took into account the relevant provisions of resolution 45/33 on the thirtieth anniversary of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, and resolution 54/91 on the implementation of the Declaration. Additionally, the Special Committee took into consideration the relevant documents of other intergovernmental bodies concerned, to which reference is made in the last preambular paragraph of resolution A/AC.109/2000/27 adopted on 17 July 2000.

20. In 1994, the Special Committee, in keeping with its consistent goal of limiting documentation and streamlining its report to the General Assembly, recommended to the Assembly that, in preparing the general working papers on the Territories, the Secretariat should, where applicable, incorporate under separate headings those sections relating to economic and other activities which affect the interests of the people of the Non-Self-Governing Territories and those on military activities and arrangements in those Territories. By adopting resolution 49/89 of 16 December 1994, the Assembly approved, inter alia, that recommendation.

21. During its consideration of the item, the Special Committee had before it working papers prepared by the Secretariat containing, inter alia, information on economic conditions, with particular reference to foreign economic activities, in the following Territories: Bermuda, Cayman Islands, United States Virgin Islands and British Virgin Islands (A/AC.109/2000/13, 14, 17 and Corr.1 and 18).

22. At the 12th meeting, on 17 July 2000, the Chairman drew attention to the various working papers prepared by the Secretariat which contained references to economic and other activities which affected the interests of the people of the Non-Self-Governing Territories and to a draft resolution on the item (A/AC.109/2000/L.12).

23. At the same meeting, the representative of the Russian Federation made a statement (see A/AC.109/2000/SR.12).

24. At the same meeting, the Special Committee adopted draft resolution A/AC.109/2000/L.12 without a vote (A/AC.109/2000/27).

25. The text of resolution A/AC.109/2000/27, adopted by the Special Committee at its 12th meeting, on 17 July 2000, appears in the form of a recommendation of the Special Committee to the General Assembly in part III of the present report (see A/55/23 (Part III), chap. XIII, sect. B).

Chapter VI
Military activities and arrangements by colonial Powers in Territories under their administration

26. At its 1st and 3rd meetings, on 18 February and 28 March 2000, by adopting the suggestions relating to the organization of its work put forward by the Chairman (A/AC.109/2000/L.2 and Rev.1), the Special Committee decided, inter alia, to take up as a separate item the question of military activities and arrangements by colonial Powers in Territories under their administration and to consider it at its plenary meetings.

27. The Special Committee considered the item at its 12th meeting, on 17 July 2000.

28. In its consideration of the item, the Special Committee took into account the provisions of the relevant General Assembly resolutions, including, in particular, resolution 54/91, in paragraph 12 of which the Assembly called upon the administering Powers concerned to eliminate the remaining military bases in the Non-Self-Governing Territories in compliance with the relevant resolutions of the Assembly. The Special Committee also took into account Assembly decision 54/421 of 6 December 1999, in paragraph 8 of which the Assembly requested the Special Committee to continue to examine the question and to report thereon to the Assembly at its fifty-fifth session. Furthermore, the Special Committee took into account the relevant provisions of Assembly resolution 45/33 on the thirtieth anniversary of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

29. During its consideration of the item, the Special Committee had before it working papers prepared by the Secretariat containing, inter alia, information on military activities and arrangements in Guam, Bermuda and the United States Virgin Islands (A/AC.109/2000/6, 13 and 17).

30. At the 12th meeting, on 17 July, the Chairman drew attention to a draft decision on the item (A/AC.109/2000/L.13).

31. At the same meeting, the representative of the Russian Federation made a statement (see A/AC.109/2000/SR.12).

32. At the same meeting, the Special Committee adopted draft decision A/AC.109/2000/L.13 without a vote (A/AC.109/2000/28).

33. The text of decision A/AC.109/2000/28, adopted by the Special Committee at its 12th meeting, on 17 July 2000, appears in the form of a recommendation of the Special Committee to the General Assembly in part III of the present report (see A/55/23 (Part III), chap. XIII, sect. I).

Chapter VII

Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations

34. At its 1st and 3rd meetings, on 18 February and 28 March 2000, by adopting the suggestions relating to the organization of its work put forward by the Chairman (A/AC.109/2000/L.2 and Rev.1), the Special Committee decided, inter alia, to take up the question of the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations and to consider it at its plenary meetings.

35. The Special Committee considered the item at its 13th meeting, on 20 July 2000.

36. During its consideration of the item, the Special Committee took into account the provisions of General Assembly resolution 54/85 of 6 December 1999 on the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations, in paragraph 22 of which the Assembly requested the Special Committee to continue to examine the question and to report thereon to the Assembly at its fifty-fifth session. The Special Committee also took into account all other resolutions adopted by the Assembly on this subject, including resolution 46/181 of 19 December 1991, endorsing the plan of action for the International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism (see A/46/634/Rev.1).

37. The Special Committee also took into account the relevant documents of other intergovernmental bodies concerned, to which reference is made in the fourth preambular paragraph of resolution A/AC.109/2000/29, adopted on 20 July 2000.

38. At the 13th meeting, on 20 July 2000, the Chairman drew attention to the report of the Secretary-General on the item (A/55/72 and Corr.1) and to the information submitted by the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system on their activities with regard to the implementation of the

Declaration (E/2000/68), as well as to the draft resolution on the item (A/AC.109/2000/L.14).

39. At the same meeting, in accordance with a decision taken by the Special Committee at its 5th meeting, Carlyle Corbin made a statement on behalf of the Government of the United States Virgin Islands (see A/AC.109/2000/SR.13).

40. At the same meeting, the representative of Antigua and Barbuda made a statement (see A/AC.109/2000/SR.13).

41. At the same meeting, the Special Committee adopted draft resolution A/AC.109/2000/L.14 without a vote (A/AC.109/2000/29).

42. The text of resolution A/AC.109/2000/29, adopted by the Special Committee at its 13th meeting, on 20 July 2000, appears in the form of a recommendation of the Special Committee to the General Assembly in part III of the present report (see A/55/23 (Part III), chap. XIII, sect. C).

Chapter VIII
Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories transmitted under Article 73 *e* of the Charter of the United Nations

43. At its 1st and 3rd meetings, on 18 February and 28 March 2000, by adopting the suggestions relating to the organization of its work put forward by the Chairman (A/AC.109/2000/L.2 and Rev.1), the Special Committee decided, inter alia, to take up the question of information from Non-Self-Governing Territories transmitted under Article 73 *e* of the Charter of the United Nations and to consider it at its plenary meetings.

44. The Special Committee considered the item at its 5th meeting, on 5 July 2000.

45. During its consideration of the item, the Special Committee took into account the resolutions of the General Assembly concerning information from Non-Self-Governing Territories transmitted under Article 73 *e* of the Charter and related questions, in particular resolution 1970 (XVIII) of 16 December 1963, by which the Assembly decided, inter alia, to dissolve the Committee on Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories and to transfer certain of its functions to the Special Committee, and resolution 54/83 of 6 December 1999, in paragraph 5 of which the Assembly requested the Special Committee to continue to discharge the functions entrusted to it under resolution 1970 (XVIII), in accordance with established procedures, and to report thereon to the Assembly at its fifty-fifth session. Furthermore, the Special Committee took into account the relevant provisions of Assembly resolutions 54/91 of 6 December 1999, on the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, and 45/33 of 20 November 1990, relating to the thirtieth anniversary of the Declaration.

46. At the 5th meeting, on 5 July 2000, the Acting Chairman drew the attention to the report of the Secretary-General on the item (A/55/77 and Add.1), which reflected the dates of transmission of information under Article 73 *e* of the Charter of the United Nations by the administering Powers in regard to Territories under their respective administration, as well as to a draft resolution on the item (A/AC.109/2000/L.5).

47. At the same meeting, the Special Committee adopted draft resolution A/AC.109/2000/L.5 without a vote (A/AC.109/2000/21).

48. The text of resolution A/AC.109/2000/21, adopted by the Special Committee at its 5th meeting, on 5 July 2000, appears in the form of a recommendation of the Special Committee to the General Assembly in part III of the present report (see A/55/23 (Part III), chap. XIII, sect. A).

Chapter IX
East Timor, Gibraltar, New Caledonia and Western Sahara

49. At its 1st and 3rd meetings, on 18 February and 28 March 2000, by adopting the suggestions relating to the organization of its work put forward by the Chairman (A/AC.109/2000/L.2 and Rev.1), the Special Committee decided, inter alia, to take up the question of East Timor, Gibraltar, New Caledonia and Western Sahara as separate items and to consider them at its plenary meetings.

50. In its consideration of the items, the Special Committee took into account General Assembly resolutions 54/91 and 54/92 and resolution 54/194 of

17 December 1999, decisions 54/422 and 54/423 of 6 December 1999, as well as other relevant resolutions and decisions.

51. Portugal participated in the work of the Special Committee in relation to East Timor. France participated in the work of the Special Committee in relation to New Caledonia.

A. East Timor

52. The Special Committee considered the question of East Timor at its 6th meeting, on 5 July 2000.

53. During its consideration of the item, the Special Committee had before it a working paper prepared by the Secretariat containing information on developments concerning the Territory (A/AC.109/2000/12). It also took into account the reports of the Secretary-General on the situation in East Timor (S/2000/53 and Add.1) and the briefing on the situation in East Timor to the Security Council at its 4165th meeting, on 27 June 2000, by Sergio Vieira de Mello, Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Transitional Administrator for East Timor (see S/PV.4165).

54. At the 6th meeting, on 5 July 2000, the Acting Chairman informed the Special Committee that the delegation of Portugal had requested to participate in the Special Committee's consideration of the question. The Special Committee decided to accede to the request (see A/AC.109/2000/SR.6).

55. At the same meeting, the representative of Portugal made a statement (see A/AC.109/2000/SR.6).

56. In accordance with decisions taken at the 5th meeting on 5 July 2000, the Special Committee granted requests for hearing from the following petitioners and heard their statements at the 6th meeting: Charles Scheiner, International Federation for East Timor; Brother Ignacio Harding, on behalf of the Catholic Institute for International Relations; Frank Fitzgerald, on behalf of the Commission for the Rights of Maubere People; Vanessa Ramos, on behalf of the International Platform of Jurists for East Timor; Augusto Miclat, Jr., Asia-Pacific Coalition for East Timor; Vivek Ananthan, Volunteers for International Solidarity; Adam Minson, on behalf of the Swedish East Timor Committee; Ricardo Castanheira, Member, Socialist Party, Portugal; Natalia Carrascalao, Member, Social Democratic Party, Portugal; Miguel Anacoreta Correia, Member, Popular Party, Portugal; Bernardino Soares, Member, Communist Party, Portugal; and John Miller, East Timor Action Network/United States (see A/AC.109/2000/SR.6).

57. At the same meeting, the representative of Indonesia made a statement (see A/AC.109/2000/SR.6).

B. Gibraltar

58. The Special Committee considered the question of Gibraltar at its 5th meeting, on 5 July 2000.

59. During its consideration of the item, the Special Committee had before it a working paper prepared by the Secretariat containing information on developments concerning the Territory (see A/AC.109/2000/10).

60. At the 5th meeting, the Acting Chairman informed the Special Committee that the delegation of Spain had requested to participate in the Special Committee's consideration of the question. The Special Committee decided to accede to the request.

61. At the same meeting, with the consent of the Special Committee, Peter Caruana, Chief Minister of Gibraltar, made a statement (see A/AC.109/2000/SR.5).

62. At the same meeting, the representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran made a statement (see A/AC.109/2000/SR.5).

63. At the same meeting, in accordance with a decision taken at the outset of the meeting, a statement was made by Joseph Bossano, Leader of the Opposition in Gibraltar (see A/AC.109/2000/SR.5).

64. At the same meeting, the representative of Spain made a statement (see A/AC.109/2000/SR.5).

65. At same meeting, on the proposal of the Acting Chairman, the Special Committee decided to continue its consideration of the question at its next session, subject to any directives that the General Assembly might give in that connection at its fifty-fifth session and, in order to facilitate consideration of the question by the Fourth Committee, to transmit the relevant documentation to the Assembly.

C. New Caledonia

66. The Special Committee considered the question of New Caledonia at its 7th and 11th meetings, on 10 and 12 July 2000.

67. During its consideration of the item, the Special Committee had before it a working paper prepared by the Secretariat containing information on developments concerning the Territory (A/AC.109/2000/4).

68. At the 7th meeting, on 10 July, the Acting Chairman drew attention to a working paper prepared by the Secretariat (A/AC.109/2000/4) and to a draft resolution on the item (A/AC.109/2000/L.7).

69. At the same meeting, in accordance with a decision taken by the Committee at its 5th meeting, a statement was made by Paul Néaoutyine, on behalf of the Front de libération nationale Kanak socialiste (see A/AC.109/2000/SR.7).

70. At the same meeting, in accordance with a decision taken at the outset of the meeting, Jean Leques, President of New Caledonia, made a statement (see A/AC.109/2000/SR.7).

71. At the same meeting, on the suggestion of the Acting Chairman, the Committee decided that, owing to current consultations on draft resolution A/AC.109/2000/L.7, it would continue consideration of the item at a later stage.

72. At its 11th meeting, on 12 July, the representative of Papua New Guinea introduced draft resolution A/AC.109/2000/L.7, in the course of which he revised the draft resolution by adding the words "including preliminary studies relating to hydrocarbons" at the end of operative paragraph 12 (see A/AC.109/2000/SR.11).

73. At the same meeting, the Special Committee adopted draft resolution A/AC.109/2000/L.7, as orally revised, without a vote (A/AC.109/2000/25).

74. At the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of the Syrian Arab Republic, Chile and Antigua and Barbuda (see A/AC.109/2000/SR.11).

75. The text of resolution A/AC.109/2000/25, adopted by the Special Committee at its 11th meeting, on 12 July 2000, appears in the form of a recommendation of the Special Committee to the General Assembly in part III of the present report (see A/55/23 (Part III), chap. XIII, sect. D).

D. Western Sahara

76. The Special Committee considered the question of Western Sahara at its 6th meeting, on 5 July 2000.

77. During its consideration of the item, the Special Committee had before it a working paper prepared by the Secretariat containing information on developments concerning the Territory (A/AC.109/2000/7 and Corr.1).

78. At its 6th meeting, on 5 July 2000, in accordance with a decision taken at its 5th meeting, the Special Committee granted a request for hearing to Ahmed Boukhari of the Frente Popular para la Liberación de Saguia el-Hamra y de Rio de Oro (Frente POLISARIO), who made a statement at the same meeting (see A/AC.109/2000/SR.6).

79. At the same meeting, on the proposal of the Acting Chairman, the Special Committee decided, subject to any directives that the General Assembly might give in that connection at its fifty-fifth session and in order to facilitate consideration of the question by the Fourth Committee, to transmit the relevant documentation to the Assembly.

Chapter X
American Samoa, Anguilla, Bermuda, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Guam, Montserrat, Pitcairn, St. Helena, Turks and Caicos Islands and United States Virgin Islands

80. At its 1st and 3rd meetings, on 18 February and 28 March 2000, by adopting the suggestions relating to the organization of its work put forward by the Chairman (A/AC.109/2000/L.2 and Rev.1), the Special Committee decided, inter alia, to take up the questions of American Samoa, Anguilla, Bermuda, the British Virgin Islands, the Cayman Islands, Guam, Montserrat, Pitcairn, St. Helena, the Turks and Caicos Islands and the United States Virgin Islands and to consider them at its plenary meetings.

81. In its consideration of the items, the Special Committee took into account the provisions of General Assembly resolution 54/91 on the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to

Colonial Countries and Peoples. In paragraph 8 of that resolution, the Assembly requested the Special Committee, inter alia, to continue to pay special attention to the small Territories and to recommend to the Assembly the most suitable steps to be taken to enable the populations of those Territories to exercise their right to self-determination. The Special Committee also took into account relevant resolutions and decisions on the Territories adopted by the Assembly.

82. The delegations of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America, the administering Powers concerned, did not participate in the Special Committee's consideration of the Territories under their administration.[2] However, as a result of informal consultations with the Special Committee held during its substantive session in 2000, both administering Powers reaffirmed their desire to continue an informal dialogue with the Special Committee on the questions.

83. The Special Committee considered the 11 Territories at its 7th, 9th and 13th meetings, on 10, 11 and 20 July 2000.

84. During its consideration of the items, the Special Committee had before it the working papers prepared by the Secretariat on the Territories (A/AC.109/2000/2, 3, 6, 8, 9, 13-16, 17 and 17/Corr.1 and 18).

85. At the 7th meeting, on 10 July 2000, the Acting Chairman drew attention to a draft resolution relating to the questions of American Samoa, Anguilla, Bermuda, the British Virgin Islands, the Cayman Islands, Guam, Montserrat, Pitcairn, St. Helena, the Turks and Caicos Islands and the United States Virgin Islands (A/AC.109/2000/L.9).

86. At the same meeting, on the suggestion of the Acting Chairman, the Special Committee decided that, owing to current consultations on the draft resolution, it would continue consideration of the draft resolution at a later stage.

87. At the same meeting, with the Special Committee's consent, Carlyle Corbin made a statement on behalf of the Government of the United States Virgin Islands (see A/AC.109/2000/SR.7).

88. At the same meeting, in accordance with the decision taken by the Special Committee at its 5th meeting, Ed Morgan made a statement on the question of St. Helena on behalf of the Citizenship Commission of St. Helena (see A/AC.109/2000/SR.7).

89. At the 9th meeting, on 11 July 2000, with the Special Committee's consent, statements were made by Madeleine Bordallo, Lieutenant Governor of Guam, and by Ronald F. Rivera, on behalf of the Guam Commission on Decolonization (see A/AC.109/2000/SR.9).

90. At the same meeting, the representative of the Syrian Arab Republic made a statement (see A/AC.109/2000/SR.9).

91. At the 13th meeting, on 20 July 2000, the Chairman drew attention to revised draft resolution A/AC.109/2000/L.9/Rev.1 and Corr.1.

92. At the same meeting, following statements made by the representatives of Saint Lucia and Antigua and Barbuda (see A/AC.109/2000/SR.13), the Special Committee adopted revised resolution A/AC.109/2000/L.9/Rev.1 and Corr.1 without a vote (A/AC.109/2000/30).

93. The text of resolution A/AC.109/2000/30, adopted by the Special Committee at its 13th meeting, on 20 July 2000, appears in the form of a recommendation of the Special Committee to the General Assembly in part III of the present report (see A/55/23 (Part III), chap. XIII, sect. F).

Chapter XI
Tokelau

94. At its 1st and 3rd meetings, on 18 February and 28 March 2000, by adopting the suggestions relating to the organization of its work put forward by the Chairman (A/AC.109/2000/L.2 and Rev.1), the Special Committee decided, inter alia, to take up the question of Tokelau as a separate item and to consider it at its plenary meetings.

95. The Special Committee considered the item at its 7th and 11th meetings, on 10 and 12 July 2000.

96. During its consideration of the item, the Special Committee had before it a working paper prepared by the Secretariat containing information on developments concerning the Territory (see A/AC.109/2000/5).

[2] For the explanation of their non-participation, see documents A/47/86, A/42/651, annex, and *Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-first Session, Supplement No. 23* (A/41/23), chap. I, paras. 76 and 77.

97. At the 7th meeting, on 10 July 2000, the Acting Chairman drew attention to draft resolution A/AC.109/2000/L.10 on the question of Tokelau.

98. At the same meeting, with the consent of the Special Committee, Lindsay Watt, Administrator of Tokelau, made a statement (see A/AC.109/2000/SR.7).

99. At the 11th meeting, on 12 July, the representative of Papua New Guinea introduced revised draft resolution A/AC.109/2000/L.10/Rev.1.

100. At the same meeting, the Special Committee adopted revised draft resolution A/AC.109/2000/L.10/Rev.1 without a vote (A/AC.109/2000/26).

101. At the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of the Syrian Arab Republic, Chile and Antigua and Barbuda (see A/AC.109/2000/SR.11).

102. The text of resolution A/AC.109/2000/26, adopted by the Special Committee at its 11th meeting, on 12 July 2000, appears in the form of a recommendation of the Special Committee to the General Assembly in part III of the present report (see A/55/23 (Part III), chap. XIII, sect. E).

Chapter XII
Falkland Islands (Malvinas)

103. At its 1st and 3rd meetings, on 18 February and 28 March 2000, by adopting the suggestions relating to the organization of its work put forward by the Chairman (A/AC.109/2000/L.2 and Rev.1), the Special Committee decided, inter alia, to take up the question of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas) as a separate item and to consider it at its plenary meetings.

104. The Special Committee considered the item at its 8th meeting, on 11 July 2000.

105. In its consideration of the item, the Special Committee took into account General Assembly decision 54/412 of 4 November 1999, as well as other relevant resolutions and decisions.

106. During its consideration of the item, the Special Committee had before it a working paper prepared by the Secretariat containing information on developments concerning the Territory (A/AC.109/2000/11 and Corr.1).

107. At the 8th meeting, the Chairman informed the Special Committee that the delegations of Argentina, Brazil (on behalf of the States members of the Southern Cone Common Market (MERCOSUR) (Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay and Uruguay) as well as Bolivia and Chile), Paraguay and Uruguay had requested to participate in the Special Committee's consideration of the item. The Special Committee decided to accede to the requests.

108. At the same meeting, in accordance with a decision taken by the Special Committee at its 5th meeting, on 5 July 2000, statements were made by the Honourable Sharon Halford and the Honourable Richard Cockwell of the Legislative Council of the Falkland Islands, as well as by Guillermo Clifton, Alejandro Betts and Alejandro Vernet (see A/AC.109/2000/SR.8).

109. At the same meeting, the representative of Chile introduced, on behalf of Bolivia, Chile, Cuba and Venezuela, a draft resolution on the item (A/AC.109/2000/L.8).

110. At the same meeting, the Minister for Foreign Affairs, International Trade and Worship of Argentina made a statement (see A/AC.109/2000/SR.8).

111. At the same meeting, statements were made by the representative of Brazil (on behalf of the States members of MERCOSUR and of Bolivia and Chile), Uruguay, Paraguay, Tunisia, Iraq, Indonesia, Venezuela, China, the Syrian Arab Republic, Cuba, Côte d'Ivoire, Ethiopia, the United Republic of Tanzania and Bolivia (see A/AC.109/2000/SR.8).

112. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/AC.109/2000/L.8 without a vote (A/AC.109/2000/23).

113. At the same meeting, the representatives of Grenada, Antigua and Barbuda and Sierra Leone made statements in explanation of position (see A/AC.109/2000/SR.8).

114. The delegation of the United Kingdom, the administering Power concerned, did not participate in the Special Committee's consideration of the item.

115. The text of resolution A/AC.109/2000/23, adopted by the Special Committee at its 8th meeting, on 11 July 2000, is reproduced below:

Question of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas)

The Special Committee,

Having considered the question of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas),

Aware that the maintenance of colonial situations is incompatible with the United Nations ideal of universal peace,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, 2065 (XX) of 16 December 1965, 3160 (XXVIII) of 14 December 1973, 31/49 of 1 December 1976, 37/9 of 4 November 1982, 38/12 of 16 November 1983, 39/6 of 1 November 1984, 40/21 of 27 November 1985, 41/40 of 25 November 1986, 42/19 of 17 November 1987 and 43/25 of 17 November 1988, Special Committee resolutions A/AC.109/756 of 1 September 1983, A/AC.109/793 of 21 August 1984, A/AC.109/842 of 9 August 1985, A/AC.109/885 of 14 August 1986, A/AC.109/930 of 14 August 1987, A/AC.109/972 of 11 August 1988, A/AC.109/1008 of 15 August 1989, A/AC.109/1050 of 14 August 1990, A/AC.109/1087 of 14 August 1991, A/AC.109/1132 of 29 July 1992, A/AC.109/1169 of 14 July 1993, A/AC.109/2003 of 12 July 1994, A/AC.109/2033 of 13 July 1995, A/AC.109/2062 of 22 July 1996, A/AC.109/2096 of 16 June 1997, A/AC.109/2122 of 6 July 1998 and A/AC.109/1999/23 of 1 July 1999 and Security Council resolutions 502 (1982) of 3 April 1982 and 505 (1982) of 26 May 1982,

Distressed that, notwithstanding the time that has elapsed since the adoption of General Assembly resolution 2065 (XX), this prolonged dispute has not yet been settled,

Aware of the interest of the international community in the resumption by the Governments of Argentina and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland of their negotiations in order to find as soon as possible a peaceful, just and lasting solution to the sovereignty dispute relating to the question of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas),

Expressing its preoccupation over the fact that the good level of relations between Argentina and the United Kingdom has not yet led to negotiations on the question of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas),

Considering that this situation should facilitate the resumption of the negotiations in order to find a peaceful solution to the dispute over sovereignty,

Reaffirming the principles of the Charter of the United Nations on the non-use of force or the threat of force in international relations and the peaceful settlement of international disputes,

Calling attention to the importance of the Secretary-General continuing his efforts to give full effect to the mission entrusted to him by the General Assembly in its resolutions on the question of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas),

Reaffirming the need for the parties to take due account of the interests of the population of the islands in accordance with the provisions of the General Assembly resolutions on the question of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas),

1. *Reiterates* that the way to put an end to the special and particular colonial situation in the question of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas) is the peaceful and negotiated settlement of the dispute over sovereignty between the Governments of Argentina and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland;

2. *Takes note* of the views expressed by the President of the Argentine Republic on the occasion of the fifty-fourth session of the General Assembly;[3]

3. *Regrets* that, in spite of the widespread international support for a negotiation between the Governments of Argentina and the United Kingdom that includes all aspects of the future of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas), the implementation of the General Assembly resolutions on this question has not yet started;

4. *Requests* the Governments of Argentina and the United Kingdom to consolidate the current process of dialogue and cooperation through the resumption of negotiations in order to find as soon as possible a peaceful solution to the sovereignty dispute relating to the question of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas), in accordance with the provisions of General Assembly resolutions 2065 (XX), 3160 (XXVIII), 31/49, 37/9, 38/12, 39/6, 40/21, 41/40, 42/19 and 43/25;

5. *Reiterates its firm support* for the mission of good offices of the Secretary-General in order to assist

[3] A/54/PV.7.

the parties in complying with the request made by the General Assembly in its resolutions on the question of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas);

6. *Decides* to keep under review the question of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas) subject to the directives that the General Assembly has issued and may issue in that regard.